


**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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Attorney for Applicants

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/726,970  
Applicant : Craig B. Simpson et al.  
Filed : December 3, 2003  
  
TC/A.U. : 3644  
Examiner : (not yet assigned)  
  
Docket No. : 2029.2.4.2  
  
Customer No. : 21552

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement disclosing information which has come to the attention of applicants and/or their attorneys and is being submitted so as to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), the enclosed Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-identified application or before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits.

Neither applicants nor their attorneys make any representation that any information disclosed herein may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103. Moreover, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that the


information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, transmitted herewith are:

1. A completed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant" listing the patents, publications and other information being submitted for consideration; and
2. A legible copy of each patent, publication and other item of information in written form listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A, except for copies of U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications which are not required for applications filed after June 30, 2003.

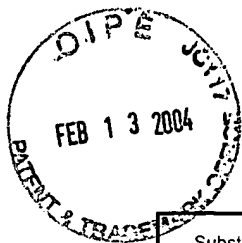
As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A are not required and, therefore, not included herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: February 10, 2004

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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)  Sheet 1 of 1	<b>Complete if Known</b>	
	Application Number	10/726,970
	Filing Date	December 3, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Craig B. Simpson
	Group Art Unit	3644
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	2029.2.4.2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	U1	US-6,513,757	02/04/2003	Amaoka et al.	
	U2	US-6,237,737	05/29/2001	Amaoka et al.	
	U3	US-6,234,423	05/22/2001	Hirahara et al.	
	U4	US-6,190,484	02/20/2001	Appa	
	U5	US-6,179,945	01/30/2001	Greenwood et al.	
	U6	US-5,875,732	03/02/1999	Chapman et al.	
	U7	US-5,848,765	12/15/1998	Gillespie	
	U8	US-5,721,034	02/24/1998	Seemann, III et al.	
	U9	US-5,641,366	06/24/1997	Hohman	
	U10	US-5,496,002	03/05/1996	Schütze	
	U11	US-5,435,504	07/25/1995	Inoue et al.	
	U12	US-5,266,249	11/30/1993	Grimes, III et al.	
	U13	US-5,242,523	09/07/1993	Willden et al.	
	U14	US-5,106,568	04/21/1992	Honka	
	U15	US-4,938,824	07/03/1990	Youngkeit	
	U16	US-4,808,362	02/28/1989	Freeman	
	U17	US-4,681,724	07/21/1987	Faiz et al.	
	U18	US-4,622,091	11/11/1986	Letterman	
	U19	US-4,445,951	05/01/1984	Lind et al.	
	U20	US-4,357,193	11/02/1982	McGann et al.	
	U21	US-4,198,018	04/15/1980	Brault	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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